

NEW HAMPSHIRE JUDICIAL BRANCH

TRIAL COURT

JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE

The New Hampshire Supreme Court is committed to improving performance of judges through regular performance evaluations. Your candid responses to this questionnaire will assist an Administrative Judge in assessing the performance of the judge named below. Narrative comments are very helpful: please use the "Comments" section on page four of this questionnaire to make additional observations about the judge's performance. To preserve confidentiality, please do not sign this questionnaire.

Judge/Master: _____

Court: _____ Date: _____

Please fill in the circle O that best reflects your opinion of the judge's performance in each area.	Unsatisfactory 1	Fair 2	Satisfactory 3	Very Good 4	Excellent 5	Not Applicable
PERFORMANCE						
1. Ability to identify and analyze relevant issues.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Judgment in application of relevant laws and rules.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Giving reasons for rulings, when needed.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Clarity of explanation of rulings.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Adequacy of findings of fact.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. Clarity of judge's decision (either oral or written).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. Completeness of judge's decision.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. Punctuality.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. Resourcefulness and common sense in resolving problems arising during the proceeding.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. Credibility of the judge's settlement appraisals.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11. Decisiveness.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



Please fill in the circle O that best reflects your opinion of the judge's performance in each area.	Unsatisfactory 1	Fair 2	Satisfactory 3	Very Good 4	Excellent 5	Not Applicable
TEMPERAMENT AND DEMEANOR						
12. Fostering a general sense of fairness.	O	O	O	O	O	O
13. Absence of coercion, threat or the like in settlement efforts (if less than satisfactory, please explain in comments section).	O	O	O	O	O	O
14. Courtesy to participants.	O	O	O	O	O	O
15. Open-mindedness.	O	O	O	O	O	O
16. Patience.	O	O	O	O	O	O
17. Absence of arrogance.	O	O	O	O	O	O
18. Maintaining order in the courtroom.	O	O	O	O	O	O
19. Demonstration of appropriate compassion.	O	O	O	O	O	O

Please fill in the circle O that best reflects your opinion of the judge's performance in each area.	Unsatisfactory 1	Fair 2	Satisfactory 3	Very Good 4	Excellent 5	Not Applicable
JUDICIAL MANAGEMENT SKILLS						
20. Effectiveness in narrowing the issues in dispute, when appropriate.	O	O	O	O	O	O
21. Moving the proceeding in an appropriately expeditious manner.	O	O	O	O	O	O
22. Maintaining appropriate control over the proceeding.	O	O	O	O	O	O
23. Allowing adequate time for presentation of the case in light of existing time constraints.	O	O	O	O	O	O
24. Appropriateness of the judge's settlement initiatives (if less than satisfactory, please explain in the comments section).	O	O	O	O	O	O
25. Thoughtfully exploring the strengths and weaknesses of each party's case in settlement discussions with the attorneys.	O	O	O	O	O	O
26. Skill in effecting compromise.	O	O	O	O	O	O

Please fill in the circle O that best reflects your opinion of the judge's performance in each area.	Unsatisfactory 1	Fair 2	Satisfactory 3	Very Good 4	Excellent 5	Not Applicable
LEGAL KNOWLEDGE						
27. Knowledge of relevant substantive law.	O	O	O	O	O	O
28. Knowledge of rules of procedure.	O	O	O	O	O	O
29. Knowledge of rules of evidence.	O	O	O	O	O	O

Please fill in the circle O that best reflects your opinion of the judge's performance in each area.	Unsatisfactory 1	Fair 2	Satisfactory 3	Very Good 4	Excellent 5	Not Applicable
ATTENTIVENESS						
30. Attentiveness.	O	O	O	O	O	O
31. Ability to really listen.	O	O	O	O	O	O

Please fill in the circle O that best reflects your opinion of the judge's performance in each area.	Unsatisfactory 1	Fair 2	Satisfactory 3	Very Good 4	Excellent 5	Not Applicable
BIAS AND OBJECTIVITY						
32. Absence of bias and prejudice based on race, sex, ethnicity, religion, social class, or other factor (if less than satisfactory, please explain in the comments section).	O	O	O	O	O	O
33. Even-handed treatment of litigants (if less than satisfactory, please explain in the comments section).	O	O	O	O	O	O
34. Even-handed treatment of attorneys (if less than satisfactory, please explain in the comments section).	O	O	O	O	O	O

Please fill in the circle O that best reflects your opinion of the judge's performance in each area.	Unsatisfactory 1	Fair 2	Satisfactory 3	Very Good 4	Excellent 5	Not Applicable
DEGREE OF PREPAREDNESS						
35. Doing the necessary "homework" on the case.	O	O	O	O	O	O
36. Rendering rulings and decisions without unnecessary delay.	O	O	O	O	O	O

COMMENTS

Narrative comments are very useful in this evaluation process. Please use the space below, or attach a separate sheet of paper, to provide narrative comments. The narrative comments will be provided to the judge either verbatim or in summary form; however, to preserve confidentiality, anything in the comments that may identify the person making the comment will be removed.

[illegible]

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The background information requested on this page is voluntary and will be kept in strict confidence. The judge being evaluated will not be supplied with any information which could identify the evaluator.

37. Please indicate approximately how many times you have appeared before or observed this judge in the last three years.	<input type="radio"/> Less than 5	<input type="radio"/> 5-10	<input type="radio"/> 10-25	<input type="radio"/> More than 25
38. If you are a lawyer, how many years have you practiced law?	<input type="radio"/> Less than 5	<input type="radio"/> 5-10	<input type="radio"/> 10-25	<input type="radio"/> More than 25
39. If you are a lawyer, what percentage of your time and practice is within this judge's jurisdiction?	<input type="radio"/> Less than 5%	<input type="radio"/> 5-10%	<input type="radio"/> 10-25%	<input type="radio"/> More than 25%
40. If you are a lawyer, is your practice principally conducted in the county in which this judge presides?	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No		

41. Types of cases in which you generally appear before or observe this judge:	
<input type="radio"/> Juvenile	<input type="radio"/> Marital
<input type="radio"/> Domestic violence petitions	<input type="radio"/> Guardianship of minor
<input type="radio"/> Criminal non-jury	<input type="radio"/> Adoptions
<input type="radio"/> Criminal jury	<input type="radio"/> Termination of parental rights
<input type="radio"/> Civil / equity non-jury	<input type="radio"/> Trusts and Estates
<input type="radio"/> Civil jury	<input type="radio"/> Other

Thank you for your assistance.

Please return this form directly to:

**Family Division Administrative Judge
P.O. Box 389
Concord, NH 03301**